

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of treating a human subject experiencing a physiological disorder comprising administering an effective amount of an agonist or antagonist of DCRS5 (SEQ ID NOs:1 or 2) or of p19 (SEQ ID NOs:5 or 6), wherein the disorder comprises:
 - a) rheumatoid arthritis;
 - b) asthma or allergy;
 - c) chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder (COPD);
 - d) an interstitial lung disorder;
 - e) an inflammatory bowel disorder (IBD); or
 - f) an inflammatory skin disorder.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the skin disorder is:
 - a) psoriasis; or
 - b) atopic dermatitis.
3. The method of Claim 1, wherein the IBD is:
 - a) Crohn's disease; or
 - b) ulcerative colitis.
4. The method of Claim 1, wherein the interstitial lung disorder is:
 - a) idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis;
 - b) eosinophilic granuloma; or
 - c) hypersensitivity pneumonitis.
5. The method of Claim 1, wherein the antagonist comprises a binding composition derived from the antigen binding site of an antibody that specifically binds to:
 - a) DCRS5 (SEQ ID NO:2); or
 - b) p19 (SEQ ID NO:6).

6. The method of Claim 5, wherein the binding composition comprises:
 - a) a polyclonal antibody;
 - b) a monoclonal antibody;
 - c) a humanized antibody; or
 - d) an Fab, Fv, or F(ab')₂ fragment.
7. The method of Claim 1, wherein the agonist comprises:
 - a) DCRS5 (SEQ ID NO:2); or
 - b) p19 (SEQ ID NO:6).
8. The method of Claim 1, wherein the agonist or antagonist comprises a nucleic acid.
9. The method of Claim 8, wherein the antagonist comprises:
 - a) an antisense nucleic acid; or
 - b) an RNA interference nucleic acid.
10. A method of diagnosing a physiological disorder comprising contacting a binding composition that specifically binds to DCRS5 (SEQ ID NOs:1 or 2), or to p19 (SEQ ID NOs:5 or 6), to a sample derived from a test subject experiencing:
 - a) rheumatoid arthritis;
 - b) asthma or allergy;
 - c) chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder (COPD);
 - d) an interstitial lung disorder;
 - e) inflammatory bowel disorder (IBD); or
 - f) an inflammatory skin disorder.
11. The method of Claim 10, further comprising:
 - a) contacting the binding composition to a sample derived from a control subject or control sample; and
 - b) comparing the binding found with the test subject with the binding found with the control subject or control sample.

12. The method of Claim 10, wherein the binding composition comprises:
 - a) a polyclonal antibody;
 - b) a monoclonal antibody;
 - c) a humanized antibody;
 - d) an Fab, Fv, or F(ab')₂ fragment;
 - e) a nucleic acid; or
 - f) a detectable label.
13. The method of Claim 12, wherein the nucleic acid comprises:
 - a) a probe or primer; or
 - b) a molecular beacon.
14. The method of Claim 10, wherein the sample is derived from a human cell, tissue, or biological fluid.
15. The method of Claim 10, wherein the skin disorder is:
 - a) psoriasis; or
 - b) atopic dermatitis.
16. The method of Claim 10, wherein the IBD is:
 - a) Crohn's disease; or
 - b) ulcerative colitis.
17. The method of Claim 10, wherein the interstitial lung disorder is:
 - a) idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis;
 - b) eosinophilic granuloma; or
 - c) hypersensitivity pneumonitis.